

Application No. 10/889,802  
Page 2 of 9

During the Examination the claims were amended as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly comprising an intermediate portion having opposed ends, and at least one end portion connected to an end of the intermediate portion, the or each end portion being connected to the intermediate portion by a frangible portion, wherein the or each end portion is moveable between a first position in which the soft furnishing assembly is substantially flat and a second position in which the or each end portion angularly abuts an adjacent end of the intermediate portion and the frangible portion is broken; the intermediate portion and the or each end portion being provided with a channel, the channel being disposed substantially along the length of a rear surface of the intermediate portion and of a rear surface of the or each end portion, a support member, the channel being arranged to receive said support member and whereby a plurality of fastening members extend outwardly from the channel, the fastening members being arranged to engage with apertures provided on sides of the support member when the support member is received by the channel.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 1, wherein the or each end portion has an inclined surface, proximal to a respective end surface of the intermediate portion, the inclined surface of each end portion being the same length as the adjacent end surface, the inclined surface and end surface defining a substantially V-shaped groove, whereby the frangible portion is disposed at a trough of the V-shaped groove when the soft furnishing assembly is in the first position.

Application No. 10/889,802  
Page 3 of 9

5. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 1, wherein the intermediate portion and the or each end portion is upholstered with a fabric.

6. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 1, wherein the or each end portion has an inclined surface, proximal to a respective end surface of the intermediate portion, the inclined surface of each end portion being the same length as the adjacent end surface, the inclined surface and end surface defining a substantially V-shaped groove; the intermediate portion and the or each end portion being upholstered with a fabric, and wherein the soft furnishing assembly is provided with a fabric tensioning means in the form of a flexible cord arranged along the length of the V-shaped groove at the rear of the soft furnishing assembly, the flexible cord being attached at a first end to a portion of fabric that protrudes from the V-shaped groove when the soft furnishing assembly is placed in the second position and attached at an intermediate portion to an opposing portion of fabric protruding from the V-shaped groove, whereby the flexible cord is tensioned before securing a second end of the flexible cord to the rear of the soft furnishing assembly, such that upon the or each end portion being moved into the second position, the fabric tensioning means prevents fabric from protruding from the V-shaped groove when the soft furnishing assembly is in the second position.

7. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 6, wherein the flexible cord is attached at respective ends to a pair of opposing hook members, the hook members being arranged to project from opposing portions of fabric protruding from the V-shaped groove.

8. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 1, wherein each end portion comprises a first portion and a second

Application No. 10/889,802  
Page 4 of 9

portion, the first and second portions being connected by a second frangible portion, wherein the first and the second portions are moveable between a first position in which the soft furnishing assembly is substantially flat and a second position in which the or each second frangible portion is broken and the support member is received by the channel on each of the first and second portions.

9. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 8, wherein the support member comprises a first support member portion and a second support member portion, the first and second support member portions being releasably connected to one another.

10. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 9, wherein the second support member portion is arranged to be removed and the or each end portion is arranged to be disposed about the first support member portion such that the second portion is substantially parallel with the intermediate portion.

11. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly according to claim 1, wherein the assembly is a pelmet assembly.

12. (Previously Presented) A method of construction of a soft furnishing assembly, comprising an intermediate portion having opposed ends, and at least one end portion connected to an end of the intermediate portion, the or each end portion being connected to the intermediate portion by a frangible portion, the method comprising the steps of:

- engageably arranging a support member upon a rear surface of the intermediate portion;
- moving the or each end portion about an end of the intermediate portion such that the or each end portion moves from a first position in which the

Application No. 10/889,802  
Page 5 of 9

soft furnishing assembly is substantially flat to a second position in which the or each end portion angularly abuts the adjacent end of the intermediate portion which causes the or each frangible portion to break; and

- fastening the or each end portion to a side of the support member.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein the soft furnishing assembly is a pelmet assembly.

14. (Currently Amended) A soft furnishing assembly comprising an intermediate portion having opposed

ends, and at least one end portion connected to an end of the intermediate portion, the intermediate portion and the or each end portion each having rear surfaces and being arranged to form an assembled soft furnishing, wherein the intermediate portion forms a first side of the assembled soft furnishing and the or each end portion forms a respective further side of the assembled soft furnishing, the or each further side being angled to the first side when assembled, the or each end portion being connected to the intermediate portion by a respective frangible portion, said frangible portion being located at a groove between the intermediate portion and respective end portion on the rear surfaces thereof, whereby the or each end portion is ~~moveable~~ pivotable toward said rear surface of the rear surface of the intermediate portion between a first position in which the soft furnishing assembly is substantially flat and a second position in which the or each end portion angularly abuts an adjacent end of the intermediate portion, and the movement from the first position towards the second causes breaking of the or each frangible portion to enable the or each end portion to be moved to the second position thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 14, wherein the intermediate portion and the or each end portion are

Application No. 10/889,802  
Page 6 of 9

provided with a channel, the channel being disposed substantially along the length of a the rear surface of the intermediate portion and of a the rear surface of the or each end portion, the channel being arranged to receive a support member.

16. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 15, wherein a plurality of fastening members extend outwardly from the channel, the fastening members being arranged to engage with apertures provided on sides of the support member when received by the channel.

17. (Currently Amended) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 14, wherein the or each end portion has an inclined surface, proximal to a respective end surface of the intermediate portion, the inclined surface of each end portion being the same length as the adjacent end surface, the inclined surface and end surface defining a ~~substantially V-shaped~~ the groove, whereby the frangible portion is disposed at a trough of the ~~V-shaped~~ the groove when the soft furnishing assembly is in the first position.

18. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 14, wherein the intermediate portion and the or each end portion is upholstered with fabric.

19. (Currently Amended) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 18, wherein the soft furnishing assembly is provided with a fabric tensioning means in the form of a flexible cord arranged along the length of the ~~V-shaped~~ groove at the rear of the soft furnishing assembly, the flexible cord being attached at a first end to a portion of fabric adjacent a first end of the groove and attached at an intermediate portion to a portion of fabric adjacent an opposing end of the groove ~~that protrudes from the V-shaped groove when the soft furnishing assembly is placed in the second position and attached at an intermediate portion to~~

Application No. 10/889,802

Page 7 of 9

~~an opposing portion of fabric protruding from the V-shaped groove~~, whereby the flexible cord is tensioned ~~before securing~~ and a second end of the flexible cord is secured to the rear of the soft furnishing assembly, such that ~~upon the or each end portion being moved into the second position~~, the fabric tensioning means prevents fabric from protruding outwardly from the ~~V-shaped groove~~ adjacent the groove when the soft furnishing assembly is in the second position.

20. (Currently Amended) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 19, wherein the flexible cord is attached at respective ends to a pair of opposing hook members, the hook members being arranged to project from opposing portions of fabric protruding adjacent ~~from the V-shaped groove~~ at the rear of the soft furnishing assembly.

21. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 15, wherein each end portion comprises a first portion and a second portion, the first and second end portions being connected by a second frangible portion, wherein the first and the second portions are moveable between a first position in which the soft furnishing assembly is substantially

flat and a second position in which the or each second frangible portion is broken and the support member is received by the channel on each of the first and second portions.

22. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 21, wherein the support member comprises a first support member portion and a second support member portion, the first and second support member portions being releasably connected to one another.

23. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 22, wherein the second support member portion is arranged to be

Application No. 10/889,802  
Page 8 of 9

removed and the or each second portion is arranged to be disposed about the first support member portion such that the second portion is substantially parallel with the intermediate portion.

24. (Previously Presented) A soft furnishing assembly in accordance with claim 12, wherein the assembly is a pelmet assembly.

Independent claim 14 was discussed, specifically the elements the Examiner felt did not distinguish above the Santoro (U.S. Patent 6,152,204) and Smiley (U.S. Patent 5,890,527) references. After discussions with the Examiner he stated he would like additional terminology which would distinctly point out the point at where the frangible portion met the intermediate portion and the end portion. Therefore, the Examiner proposed the intermediate portion and the end portion each be called out to have a rear surface, and the frangible portion be located at a groove between the intermediate portion and the end portion on the rear surface. It was further discussed that the end portion be pivotable toward the rear surface of the intermediate portion. After discussing this with the Examiner in relation to the references, it was agreed by both this amendment should overcome the rejections based upon both references. In light of this the Examiner proposed to make the Examiner's Amendment of which was agreed upon by both parties. The Examiner indicated this amendment should allow the application to issue.